

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

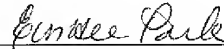
Claims rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,477,702 to Saxe et al. ("Saxe") in view of "Access Rights Analysis for Java", an IBM Research Report published October 2001 to Koved et al. ("Koved"), and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0129343 A1 to Pinter ("Pinter").

Without conceding to the propriety of the rejections, applicants are amending independent claims 1, 20 and 30 to recite, "said set of rules including at least tests for "never call X", "never call X from Y" and "never call X when synchronized", said X and Y representing method signatures," to further clarify what is being claimed. Support for the claim amendments can be found at least on page 11 and figures 7 and 8 of the originally submitted specification. None of the cited references disclose or suggest those rules as claimed applied to program graphs. For instance, Saxe discloses program verification using adaptive pattern matching using an E-graph. Pinter is concerned with estimating object lifetime. Koved refers to access rights analysis for Java. Those references, however, do not disclose or suggest, at least "said set of rules including at least tests for "never call X", "never call X from Y" and "never call X when synchronized," claimed in claims 1, 20 and 30 as amended. For at least the foregoing, independent claims 1, 20 and 30 and their respective dependent claims are believed to be unobvious over the cited references.

This communication is believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and every effort has been made to place the application in condition for allowance. A favorable Office Action is hereby earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference might expedite prosecution of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner call applicant's attorney at (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,



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